

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERN 00706 231201Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /074 W
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O 231145Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3935

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 0706

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN ECON SZ
SUBJ: SWISS AND THE IDA

REF: BERN 705

1. IT WAS NOTED IN PARA 1 OF REFTEL THAT SWISS 1977 DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REPRESENTED 4 PERCENT INCREASE OVER RECENT ANNUAL AID LEVELS. ADDITIONALLY, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT MULTIYEAR OVERALL FEDERAL SPENDING PACKAGE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT FEB 14, 1977 PROVIDES FOR ANNUAL INCREASES OF 8.7 PERCENT IN 1978 AND 18.8 PERCENT IN 1979 FOR THE AMOUNTS BUDGETED FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. THESE PROJECTED INCREASES FOR THE SWISS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM COMPARE FAVORABLY TO THE PROJECTED AVERAGE INCREASE OF 4.25 PERCENT FOR TOAL GOVT EXPENDITURES IN 1978 AND 1979.

2. IN ITS DIALOGUE WITH THE PARLIAMENT AND PUBLIC ON FOREIGN AID, THE GOVT HAS STRESSED THAT SWITZERLAND, WITH ONLY THE EQUIVALENT OF 2 PERCENT OF GNP ALLOCATED TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, RANKS AMONG THE LOWEST OF INDUSTRIALIZED WESTERN COUNTRIES IN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE DESPITE QUITE FAVORABLE TRADE BALANCE WITH
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LDC'S. SWISS GOVT HAS CONTINUALLY STRESSED THE DESIRABILITY AND NECESSITY FOR SWISS DEVELOPMENT AID AND THAT MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE APPROACH IS NOT ONLY PREFERRED BY LDC'S BUT IS ALSO MOST COST EFFECTIVE FOR COUNTRY LIKE SWITZERLAND. GOV ALSO HAS POINTED OUT TO PUBLIC THAT SWISS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THREE OF FOUR IDA REPLENISHMENTS THOUGH SWISS ARE NOT IDA MEMBERS. DAVIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT BUDGET, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERN00706
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770062-0759
Format: TEL
From: BERN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770219/aaaaaqoy.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 74d060c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BERN 705
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3257483
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWISS AND THE IDA
TAGS: EFIN, ECON, SZ, IDA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/74d060c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009